

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-12 and 17-22 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest an injection molding system as cited in the claims of the instant application. The closet prior art, Olaru (U S Patent No. 7,182,893) and Taylor (U S Patent No. 4,394,117) teaches an injection molding machine with an anti-drool mechanism, but fail to teach or suggest anti-drool mechanism including a fixed pin disposed entirely within the melt passage and sized so that the melt stream flows around the pin, and a sealing surface of the shut-off collar contacts a sealing surface of the head portion of the pin to stop the flow of the melt stream through the melt passage as cited in claims 1, 9 and 17 of the instant application. Nor does there appear to be any reason in these references, or combined with any of the other prior art of record, to modify the injection molding machine with anti-drool mechanism to result in such a combination of features.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIMPLE N. BODAWALA whose telephone number is (571)272-6455. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday at 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, PHILIP C. TUCKER can be reached on (571) 272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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